Fairies & Fantasies

Poetry by

Ruth Van Alstine

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By Ruth Van Alstine

FAIRIES & FANTASIES
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About the Author:

Ruth Van Alstine has been writing poetry since a young age, and has seriously pursued a writing career for the past thirty years. She has had poems published in national and international anthologies including *The Henry Bunner Anthology, Harriet Spofford: An Anthology in Memoriam* from Bristol Banner Books, *The Parnassus of World Poets Anthology* and *Florida State Poets Association: Anthology Thirty-Four 2016*. She is a member of the Ancient City Poets, the Florida State Poets Association, and the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. She resides in Jacksonville, Florida.

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WHEN FAIRIES COME

Oh, fairies may come
in eventide darkening,

Or, fairies may come
in daylight dawning.

But anytime fairies come
be sure thee shall not be yawning.

SNOW FAIRY MAGIC

In between crystal snowflakes,
glistening cold and bright
do tiny fairies linger,
hiding from the night.

On glancing we do not see them,
darting here and there,
gathering on six pointed snowflakes
for a wintry affair.

But rest assured they gather
in the glimmering lunar light,
and in the eerie silence
dance to secret rites.

FAIRY SECRETS

Little fairies in the trees
often come and speak to me.

What they say to me alone
I will not say,
for if I do, I can't go home.

Little fairies in the trees
tell me secrets,
then do tease and tease.

Little fairies in the trees
often come and speak to me...

PERK, THE FAIRIE TROUBADOUR

Strumming songs under his tree,
Perk was quite a sight to see.
A fairie from the time before,
Recited ancient tales and more.

Only under a full moon could he
Gather folks of the Fairie free.
Feather in cap, snug fitting wore
As a general to recite folklore.

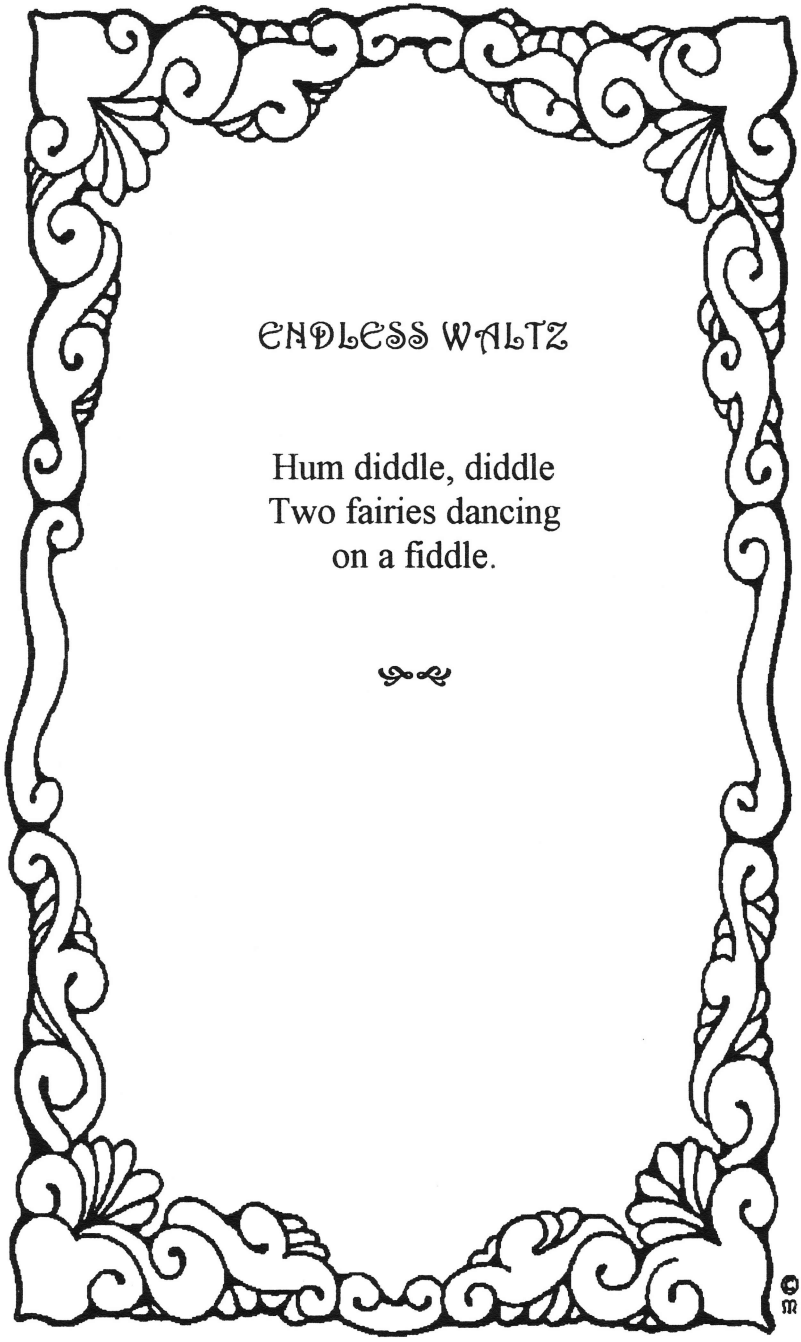
Wood creatures would gather eagerly
As the bullfrog would announcer be.
Down by the pond under a sycamore
When binding magic held no more.

©m

Perk would start on a summers eve
into the night stories would weave.
He told ancient tales from before,
of wizards, dragons, trolls galore.

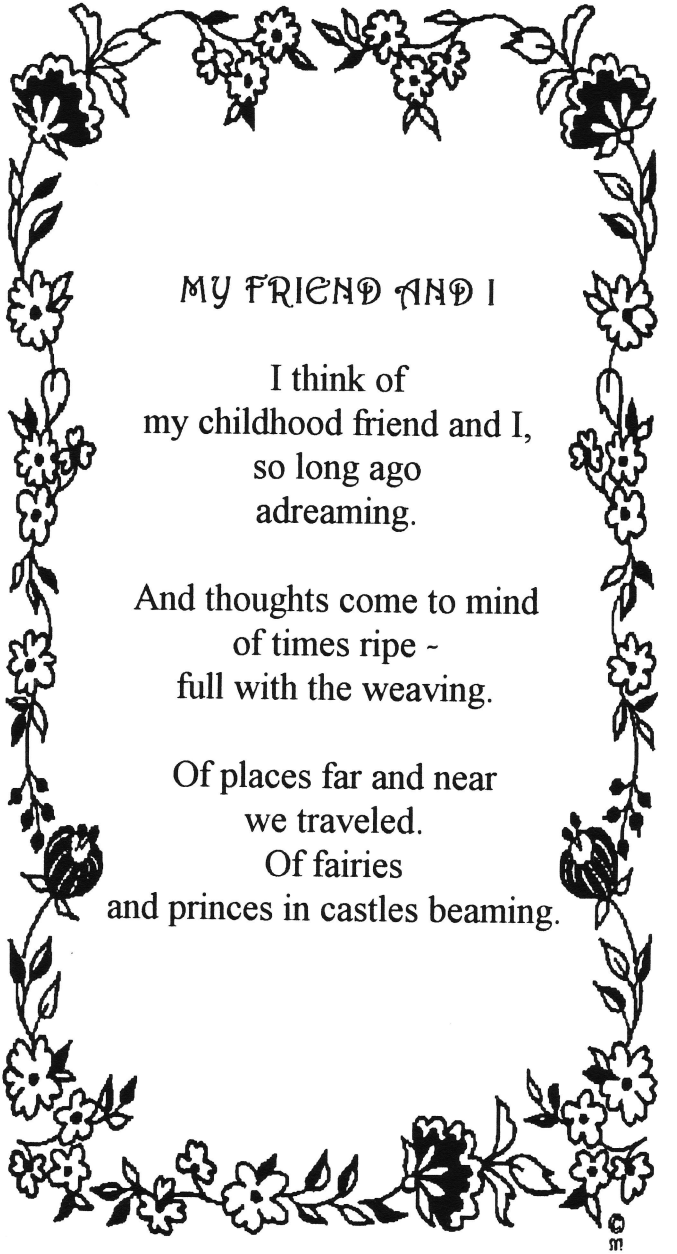
Strumming songs under his tree,
When the moon was full to set him free
from magic spun by a wizard before
in ancient times curse did score

on Perk, the fairie troubadour.



ENDLESS WALTZ

Hum diddle, diddle
Two fairies dancing
on a fiddle.



MY FRIEND AND I

I think of
my childhood friend and I,
so long ago
adreaming.

And thoughts come to mind
of times ripe -
full with the weaving.

Of places far and near
we traveled.
Of fairies
and princes in castles beaming.

In our minds,
under the lilac tree,
till the light ceased streaming.

Back in the recesses
of my mind,
my friend and I,

We dwell forever.

Now -

So long ago aseeming.

A FAIRY ENCOUNTER

Upon walking through the garden
on my way to tea,
did come upon
a sight to see.

For there in a rose,
so very violet-blue,
did a tiny creature repose,
every color of rainbow hue.

Closer I crept,
what could it be?
Cautiously held my breath,
was it butterfly or bee?

A tiny creature lay in repose,
with morning dew quite wet,
with flutter of wings arose,
looked straight at me, quite vexed.

for had I disturbed, you see,
neither butterfly nor bee,
but a beautiful fairy.

And with a flit,
did she flee.

GLENDA

Glenda, quite an impish fairy vixen,
mischievous deeds soon to quicken,
when coming upon unwary humans,
did amuse with wicked shenanigans.

Who tied the shoe laces tight
during a long evening night?
And who had nibbled here and there
on delicate pies and pastries, set to air?

Glenda by name, quite unknown,
but her deeds were evidence alone.
There lived amongst them one who could
baffle and confuse. They misunderstood.

For Glenda, quite the impish fairy vixen,
had found a home amongst their kitchens.
She settled in and laughed with glee
as blame fell on children
for the wicked spree.

IN THE LAND OF MAGIC WISHES AND DOUBLE RAINBOWS

Once upon a time,
Long ago
A beautiful young Fairy lazily
Sipped sweet nectar from buttercup goblets,
Danced and played among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

Spun golden honey was her hair,
Flowing gracefully, curling softly
About her shoulders, falling over delicate
Shimmering green and blue opaque wings.

Her name was Arien,
Green eyes sparkling,
Her dress of spun spider webs,
Shimmering in the sunlight.
A more beautiful and loving fairy
did not exist.

©

By her side a handsome silvery white Unicorn
Stood tall and proud,
A single twisted golden horn
Majestically mounted in the center
of his forehead
Sparkling in the sunlight.

Gywren was his given name,
He lovingly nuzzled Arien from time to time,
For he was Arien's guardian and best friend
In the land of magic wishes
and double rainbows,
As they danced and played among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

They wove their magic charms and spells
in harmony together
As they danced round and round,
Running down to the waters edge,
Collecting pretty shells,
Making designs in the sand on the beach,
Then did they return up the hill again to
Dance and play among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

Thus was spent immeasurable time
Arien and Gywren singing with magical voices,
charming all creatures near and far
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
As they danced and played among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

Until one day did they,
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
whilst dancing and singing happily,
come upon a creature
Who appeared to be as a man Fairy,
But wingless and without Fairy shimmer and glow,

Sleeping among the flowers
As they danced and played
In a meadow by the sea.

Quietly did they stop and stare inquisitively.
Cautiously did they approach closer to see
What creature was this
Sleeping so soundly in the flowers
as they danced and played
In a meadow by the sea.

Brown was his long hair,
Blowing softly with the breeze across his face.
Pleasant was his face,
Graceful and strong his body.
"Similar to a Fairy, but where are his wings?",
Arien asked
Of her friend, Gywren.

Enchanted Fairy crept carefully closer,
Kneeling down, better to see
This being.
Never had she seen such
A creature in all her time

That she danced and sang among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

Butterflies were dancing
About her,
And as she knelt down
The better to see,
A bold butterfly landed on his knee.

The man creature stirred suddenly,
Startling Arien, who

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Quickly back, sitting down
Suddenly among the flowers and butterflies
In a meadow by the sea.

The man creature opened his eyes
and stared as he saw
The beautiful Fairy and the Unicorn
Watching him

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In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

"What a strange creature", did Arien think
As she shyly smiled at this
Wingless Fairy man.
"But not unpleasant to look upon",
Said Gywren to Arien in their
Secret mind talk, as they looked on
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Suddenly He spoke, and did he say,
"Who are you, and what is this place?"
Said the wingless Fairy man
As he looked about
At the beauty surrounding him
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Gywren spoke to Arien in their secret mind talk,
(as we all know Unicorns can not speak aloud),

©m

"Perhaps we should be careful, not say too much
To this strange Wingless Fairy man
That we find so suddenly
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Arien leaned closely towards the man
And looked deep and intensely into his eyes,
As if searching for his very soul,
Then said to Gywren in their secret mind talk,
"I see only goodness here in this creature, Gywren
Let's find out what has brought him here to us
To the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea".

Arien turned and addressed the stranger.
"We are only a simple Fairy and her Unicorn
Who live and play here
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

For it is here that wishes that are made are sent
and it is here where dreams come true,

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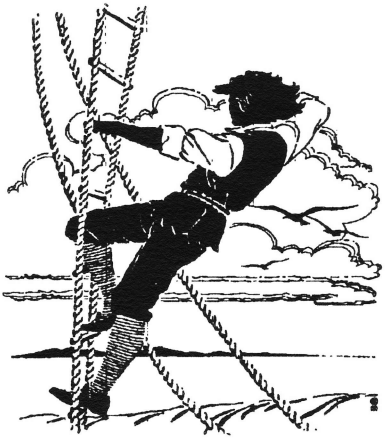
And all the answers that are sought
By wise men and simple men
Dwell here in this special place
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Arien and Gywren closely studied the face
Of their new companion here in the meadow
As he thought about the words that Arien
Had spoke to him so true.
He then looked closely into Arien's eyes
And there saw the truth and beauty
That she had spoken so very modestly.

In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

For he saw that ***They*** were
The magic and wisdom of this place,
Not just dwellers of a beautiful, magical land,
As he sat and pondered the two of them
whilst sitting among the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

The wingless Fairy man spoke finally.
"I was on a mission, sailing the seas
In search of the Cure
For my kinsmen's sickness and despair
That they feel inside.



For there is a plague upon our very souls,
Taking away the pleasure and beauty of living.
We have lost all, and suffer
From the Emptiness inside ourselves."

The man wept as he told the two
His story of how he came upon them,
Whilst they sat among the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

"When suddenly a storm came upon us
And the ship was tossed and battered
By huge waves and rain pouring
Down until it seemed
The sky was the ocean,
And the ocean the sky.
The ship was overcome by the fierce storm,
Waves crashing over the sides of the ship
Washing everything loose overboard
Into the wildly tossing ocean.
Suddenly I found myself
Being dragged over the side.
I struggled to keep my hold on something,
Anything,
But all my efforts were to no avail,
And thus was I washed over the side
Into the fierce, dark sea."

He paused for a moment,
As if to collect himself
As he remembered the terror he had felt.
Then did he continue
Telling his story to the
Beautiful Fairy and her loyal Unicorn,
Both of whom were listening closely, intently.

He took a deep breath and continued,
"I feared I would surely die,
And wished that I would be saved
so I could complete my mission and
Find the wisdom to help my kinsmen.

Then everything disappeared and
I can not remember what happened until
I awoke just now,
With you here,
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea."

Arien and Gywren listened
Carefully, Intently as he continued.

"If this is truly where
All wisdom is and all hope is found,
then truly my wishes were answered
When I was washed upon your shores
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea."

Arien and Gywren looked at each other,
And began to sing a magic healing spell.
Gywren in his secret mind talk,
Arien in her magical, hypnotic voice,
Weaving their voices so
the wingless Fairy man
Could feel the power they were creating,
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

He felt a healing taking place
In his weary, battered body,
And the knowledge
The Wingless Fairy man had requested
Was mysteriously there,
In his mind.

And he wondered for a brief moment why
He had not known this before,
For it was as if the
Knowledge has always been there,
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

And knowing his Answer
He listened on
To the pure, sweet voice of Arien.
The magical, powerful spell of Gywren.
The three stood there together,
As Arien and Gywren
Wove the Knowing spell
There in the sunshine
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Thus they stayed there that afternoon,
Into the evening time
As the stars one by one
Peered through the black night sky,
Twinkling as the three stood;

Arien and Gywren weaving their magic spell,
The Wingless Fairy man frozen,
Spellbound
By the two magical creatures before him
As they stood in the darkening twilight
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Thus passed a day,
Or an eternity.
The man could not tell which.
Until finally Arien and Gywren
Ceased their magic weaving spells,
Quietly pausing for a moment whilst
All collected themselves
There amongst the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

As the magic spell released
Its hold on them all,
They stood silently for a moment
Breathing quietly, peacefully.

Carefully stepping back away from the man
Arien spoke gently, tenderly.
"Thus, return to whence thee came.
Tell all of the magic and wisdom
You did learn here. For you must share
What Gywren and I have shared
With you here amongst the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea."

She quietly continued,
All the while looking
Deep into his eyes.
"For all the answers to your illnesses
And problems are
There, inside of you now,"
As she pointed
To the center of his forehead.

She stood back
And he could see the sun rising behind them,
Glowing through her shimmering wings,
Glistening from Gywren's golden horn
There before him.
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

Arien leaned forward and
Whispered gently into his ear,
"Close your eyes now,
For we mean to return thee
To whence thee came."

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"I see your kind is gentle,
But lacks wisdom.
So heed my words,
All thee need do now is remember,
As this knowledge forevermore
will be a part of your kind.

This is our gift to you and yours
For having the courage
To leave all that is safe and warm,
And make the journey
to find wisdom and truth,
Here in our
Land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea."

The Wingless Fairy man
Closed his eyes,
But not before taking
In one last vision
To ever keep in his heart
Of the Beautiful Arien and
Her handsome Unicorn, Gywren.

He heard their magic spell song being woven
In the air around him, surrounding
And encompassing him
Till he felt wrapped and safe in a cocoon
Of magic and beauty.

Arien and Gywren watched
As he was enveloped in the magic,
And suddenly disappeared
From among the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

The two smiled to each other
As they turned away,
Continuing where they had left off
Before the Wingless Fairy man
Had arrived to the
Land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
As they danced and played among the flowers
In a meadow by the sea.

And to this very day are they there still,
Ever on the lookout for Brave ones

Who dare to seek the
Magic and Knowledge
Of this special place
Where wishes that are made are sent,
And dreams come true.

The Fairy and Unicorn
Weave their magic charms and spells
In harmony together
As they dance and play
Among the flowers
In the land of magic wishes and double rainbows,
In a meadow by the sea.

A FAIRY FAREWELL

Tales told, battles won
Songs have been sung
As night has begun
Rest now thy tongue

Fly now to Helicon
In dream mind run
For tales be spun
On new day begun

The End